(d) the reasons for snapping the supply to Jharkhand, specially to Dhanbad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) is supplying electricity to the participating States *i.e.* West Bengal and Jharkhand in accordance with the provision of the DVC Act, 1948.

(b) The dues from 1-10-2001 to 31-3-2003 (post securitization period) are as under :

(i) West Bengal : (-) Rs. 0.03 crores (Excess payment)

(ii) JSEB : Rs. 342.78 Crores

(c) In order to recover the outstanding dues from the concerned States, a tripartite Agreement (TPA) under the one time settlement scheme of State Electricity Board (SEB) dues, has been signed between the State Government, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Central Government. Under this scheme, the dues as on 30-09-2001 are to be securitized in form of 8.5% Statutory Liquidity ratio (SLR) Bonds by waiving off 60% of the surcharge. In addition the scheme entails payment of current bills by way of Letter of Credit. For any default in payment of current dues, the agreement stipulates graded regulation. For continued default beyond 90 days, the payment can be recovered by deductions from the State Government's Account held in RBI.

(d) Due to continued default of current payment by the JSEB, regulation in the form of load shedding is being done for a period of 3 hours 36 minutes daily in conformity with the provision of TPA signed by Jharkhand. Dhanbad which gets electricity from 33kv JSEB-Govindpur Feeder, 15% restriction on contract demand has been imposed.

Availability Based Tariff

4911. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether "Availability Based Tariff" has been introduced for southern electricity boards; and

(b) if so, the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Availability Based Tariff (ABT) has been introduced in the Southern Region with effect from 1st January, 2003. The ABT is a three-art-tariff

comprising (i) Capacity Charges (ii) Energy Charges and (iii) Unscheduled Interchange Charge. The ABT is aimed at inducing better system operation and grid discipline, through commercial incentives and disincentives.

Tripartite agreement for clearing power dues

4912. DR. AKHILESH DAS :
PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a tripartite agreement with Centre and Reserve Bank of India has been signed to clear dues worth Rs. 37,400 crore of Central Power PSUs under a one-time settlement scheme;

(b) if so, the break-up of dues from various States towards different power PSUs like NTPC and NHPC;

(c) whether Government chalked out a plan for future to avoid such pending of huge dues/outstanding from State Electricity Boards towards NTPC and NHPC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The break up of outstanding dues pertaining to various States towards five Power Ministry PSUs and four other Organisations coming under other Ministries as on 30-09-2001 is given in Statement I and II respectively. (*See* below)

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The State utilities will have to ensure payment of current bills through letters of Credit and any defaulted amounted would be recovered through adjustment against releases due to the respective State Governments on account of plan assistance, States share of Central Taxes and any other grant or loan given to the State by the Central Government by way of debiting their accounts maintained in the Reserve Bank of India.

(e) The Question does not arise.